

NSC BRIEFING

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20 October 1954

PAKISTANI POLITICAL SITUATION

1. Tough-minded but chronically ailing Governor General heading able pro-American government now appears control situation.
  - A. Govt. has full support of armed and civil services.
  - B. Will deal firmly with any counter move by dissidents.
  - C. Mohammed Ali holds office as front for governor general and cabinet with tenure dependent on good behavior.
  - D. Moslem League now badly split, moribund.
    1. Postponement scheduled convention by both government and dissident factions indicates no positive achievement possible.
    2. Unlikely League can revitalize self soon.
  - E. As result this situation, national elections not imminent.

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1. Govt. may feel unable control them.
2. Constitution therefore further delayed.

II. Govt. faces problems in effort achieve stability.

A. Absence responsible political groups.

B. Economic instability, due:

1. Jute and cotton slump.
2. Resultant shortage foreign exchange essential to economic development.

C. Recent increase US aid to \$155

million for FY 1955 will meet current year's need.